

November 24

Sister Mary Clarence Trader
1903-1961

"Rest chosen soul, my dear love shall enfold thee!
Lean trusting soul upon Thy Savior's breast;
Close to my Heart forever will I hold thee,
Wander no more, for thou hast found thy rest."

Most of the Immaculate Heart Sisters, at least many of them, who stood before God's judgement seat in the early 1900's were born in America. Not so, Sister Mary Clarence, Bertha Trader. She was born and received her early education in Germany. The family was large and had ambition. Prospects for better living induced them to come to America, and Detroit so near the St. Lawrence attracted them. They settled in a new parish, St. Boniface, a German parish.

The father got work and their industry brought happiness. For several years they retained their German accent.

Bertha acquired a great interest in and love for the Sisters who taught her, and she wanted to be a Sister. On the fourth of May, 1903, she entered the postulate. The following December she received the habit and the name Sister Mary Clarence. On December 27, 1905, she made her Final Profession.

From the start teachers and pupils admired her and tried to follow her example. She seemed anxious to grasp and learn everything at once. She was always spoken of as a hard worker, a good teacher. She never shirked a duty, no request was ever unheeded, no chance to help unseen.

Sister Mary Clarence

Father O'Brien's "The Catholic Way of Life" seems to
fit her,- "In their ears echo the words of their Founder,
Jesus Christ, 'By their fruits you shall know them.' "

Sister M. Celesta Duffy.